Tax free import of vegetable oils

†1656. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have permitted tax free import of vegetable oils and other commodities;

(b) whether this is causing financial losses to the domestic industrialists and manufacturers; and

(c) the reasons for not adopting uniform tax policy for the industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INUDSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Import of vegetable oils is covered under the freely importable category of ITC HS with payment of applicable Customs Duties. All other goods other than restricted and prohibited goods are freely importable subject to applicable duties, levies and other stipulations.

The import of duty free raw materials and inputs are allowed for value addition and export.

Further duty free and concessional duty import are also allowed under the terms and conditions governing free trade agreements, regional trade agreements and preferential trade agreements entered into by India.

(b) and (c) The impact on domestic industry is taken into consideration while formulating the Foreign Trade Policy, determining the import duty regime and the trade agreements.

Suggestions of PHDCCI

1657. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Progress, Harmony and Development Chamber of Commerce and Industry has recently suggested to Government that functions of various Ministries related with manufacturing sector should be coordinated by a unified body to help reduce the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

transaction cost of manufacturing operation and ease the procedural bottlenecks by offering single-window facility to businesses;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have examined the suggestions and taken any decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) Government has not received any proposal from the Progress, Harmony and Development Chamber of Commerce and Industry with regard to coordination of functions of various Ministries related with manufacturing sector by a unified body.

Export of iron-ore

†1658. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of countries which are making efforts to receive iron-ore from India;

(b) the details of raw materials which can be imported by India as per its requirement from the relevant countries;

(c) whether Government will hold talks with the relevant countries in this regard and if so, by when;

(d) the names of the countries therein alongwith the quantity of iron-ore being exported to them at present; and

(e) the quantity of raw iron being exported to Japan from Bailadila Mines in district Bastar, Chhattisgarh on the basis of the contract made in this regard alongwith the period of the said contract?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The major countries which are presently importing iron ore from India are China, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Pakistan, European countries etc.

(b) and (c) The possibility of leveraging import of raw materials like coking coal, metallurgical coke etc. from China is availed while negotiating export of iron ore.

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